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ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its thirty-fourth session

Addendum

Programme budget implications of draft resolutions adopted by the Commission at its thirty-fourth session

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council

1. The Commission on the Status of Women, in its report to the Economic and Social Council, recommended to the Council the adoption of a number of draft resolutions, two of which, namely, draft resolution IX entitled "Situation of Palestinian Women" and draft resolution X entitled "World conference on women in 1995", would have implications on the programme budget. Prior to the adoption of the draft resolutions, the Commission was orally advised that the draft resolutions would have implications and that a statement would be submitted to the Economic and Social Council when it considers the draft resolutions. The present statement is submitted accordingly.

2. Draft resolution IX, if endorsed by the Economic and Social Council, would entail additional expenditures for the biennium 1990-1991 in the amount of $31,000. Those additional expenditures will be dealt with in accordance with the budgetary procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211 (for details, see annex I). The related proposals would be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session in the context of the revised estimates for the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

3. Draft resolution X, if endorsed by the Council, would not entail any additional expenditure for the biennium 1990-1991. The proposals in connection with the requirements for the bienniums 1992-1993 and 1994-1995 respectively, as estimated in annex II to this statement, would be made in the context of the proposed programme budgets for those bienniums accordingly.

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Annex I

PROGRAMME BUDGET IMPLICATIONS OF DRAFT RESOLUTION IX ENTITLED "SITUATION OF PALESTINIAN WOMEN"

A. Description of activities proposed in the draft resolution and their relationship to current legislation mandates

1. By operative paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General:

(a) To ensure that the experts continue to monitor and further investigate the situation of Palestinian women and children inside and outside the occupied Palestinian territories, and submit their report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fifth session;

(b) To monitor the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the mission of experts (E/CN.6/1990/10) in order to alleviate the situation of Palestinian women in the occupied Palestinian territories;

(c) To report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-fifth session on the implementation of the recommendations and conclusions contained in the report of the mission of experts (E/CN.6/1990/10), taking into consideration all available information, including reports of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and its expert missions, reports of meetings, as appropriate, and information from Governments and non-governmental organizations.

2. The activities proposed in the draft resolution are covered under chapter 21 (Social development and humanitarian affairs) of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 (extended to 1991), as revised. a/ It is further estimated that the above activities are included under section 8 (Activities on global social development issues), subprogramme 5 (Participation of women in promoting international peace and co-operation) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. b/

3. As to the activities of the mission of experts in 1991, the mission would be composed of three experts who would travel to the site of events in order to receive on-site information. The mission would then finalize its report in Vienna. The mission would be assisted by three staff members from the United Nations Office at Vienna, including one Arabic/English interpreter. It is also expected that the mission of experts may seek the testimony of witnesses in accordance with its mandate and that its final report would be issued in all the official languages of the United Nations.

B. Estimated requirements at full cost and mode of accommodation

4. On the basis of the assumptions indicated in paragraph 3 above, the costs of the mission would amount to $64,000, as detailed below:

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(a)	Substantive requirements	
(i)	Fees and travel costs for the experts	27 000
(ii)	Travel and per diem of three staff members	7 000
(iii)	Travel and per diem of witnesses	4 000
(iv)	General operating expenses for the mission	2 000
		40 000
(b)	Conference-servicing requirements	
	Issuance of the report (full cost in 1991 rates)	24 000
	Total	64 000

5. It is estimated that among the substantive costs of the mission, those relating to travel and per diem of the staff servicing the mission ($7,000), as well as the mission's operating expenses ($2,000) can be met from within the overall resources programmed under section 8 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, in particular, through partial redeployment of the resources from subprogramme 13 (Programme support) to subprogramme 5. The remaining substantive costs ($31,000) cannot be accommodated from within the existing resources and would represent the additional requirement for the year 1991 under section 8 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

6. With regard to the estimates for the conference-servicing requirements ($24,000) indicated in paragraph 4 above, the above cost estimates are based on the assumption that no part of the conference-servicing requirements would be met from within the permanent conference-servicing capacity under section 29 (Conference and library services) of the programme budget and that additional resources would be required for temporary assistance for meetings. The extent to which the Organization's permanent capacity would need to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources can be determined only in the light of the calendar of conferences for 1990-1991. c/ However, as indicated in paragraph 29.5 of the proposed programme budget, d/ the 1990-1991 level of resources for temporary assistance for activities was estimated on the basis of previous experience to accommodate not only activities that were programmed but also additional

activities. In other words, the provision was made in the programme budget not only for activities known at the time of budget preparation but also for activities that would be authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of activities and conferences in the biennium 1990-1991 was estimated consistent with the pattern of activities in past years. On that basis, it is estimated that no additional cost would be incurred under section 29 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 as a result of the adoption of the draft resolution under consideration.

C. Contingency fund

7. As indicated in paragraph 5 above, the estimated 1991 additional requirements amount to $31,000.

8. It will be recalled that, under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213, and in effect starting with the biennium 1990-1991, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accomodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget. Under the same procedure, if additional expenditures are proposed that exceed the resources available from the contingency fund, those activities can be implemented only through redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or modifications of approved activities. Otherwise, such additional activities will have to be deferred until a later biennium.

9. With regard to the additional requirements under section 8 ($31,000), in the event that the appropriation required could not be financed from the contingency fund, the scope of the activities under subprogrammes 3, 4 and 5 would be modified in order to release some of the funds currently allocated for consultants' and ad hoc groups' activities for offsetting the additional costs that would result from the adoption of the draft resolution under consideration.

Notes

a/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/37/6); Ibid., Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/41/6); Ibid., Supplement No. 38 (A/41/38); Ibid., Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/43/6); Ibid., Supplement No. 38 (A/43/38).

b/ Ibid., Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/44/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

c/ Ibid., Supplement No. 32 (A/44/32 and corrigenda), annex III.

d/ Ibid., Supplement No. 6 (A/44/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

Annex II

PROGRAMME BUDGET IMPLICATIONS OF DRAFT RESOLUTION X ENTITLED "WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN 1995"

A. Description of activities proposed and estimated requirements at full cost

1. By operative paragraphs 1 to 4 of the draft resolution, the Economic and Social Council would:

Recommend that a world conference on women be held in 1995;

Request the Commission on the Status of Women, as the preparatory body for the world conference, to include preparations for the conference in its regular work programme during the period 1991-1995 under the item on monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women;

Request the Secretary-General to include the relevant costs of preparing and convening the world conference in the programme budget of the Organization for the bienniums 1992-1993 and 1994-1995 within the respective budgetary limits;

Further request the Secretary-General to make proposals on the preparation and convening of the world conference to the Commission at its thirty-fifth session.

2. It is understood that the activities called for in the draft resolution would be composed of two major components, namely, those relating to the preparatory process of the conference and those of the conference itself.

3. As to the preparatory activities referred to in paragraph 2 of the draft resolution, it is understood that, in accordance with its resolution 1987/20, the Economic and Social Council has already decided that the Commission on the Status of Women will be the preparatory body for such a world conference on women. The Commission's preparatory work could, therefore, be built into its work programme over the period 1991-1995.

4. In 1991 the Commission would review the proposals of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the conference to be undertaken during the period 1992 to 1995 and on the convening of the conference itself in 1995 as called for under paragraph 4 of the draft resolution.

5. While the preparatory activities for the conference would not be submitted to the Commission for its consideration before its thirty-fifth session in 1991, at this point in time it is anticipated that such activities would include the preparation of reports and background documents, regional preparatory meetings and a public information programme, and would necessitate the temporary strengthening of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Office at Vienna during the bienniums 1992-1993 and 1994-1995 with three posts at

the Professional level and four at the General Service level. In addition, given that the Commission would act as the preparatory body for the conference, it is anticipated that its sessions in 1994 and 1995 would need to be extended by two additional working days each to enable it to review the progress made in and provide guidance in respect of the preparations for the conference.

6. Concerning the conference itself, it would be held at Vienna for five working days and be provided with services in all the official languages.

7. The costs for the preparatory activities are estimated to be in the order of $500,000 for 1992-1993 and $1,500,000 for 1994-1995. The conference-servicing costs are estimated at $1,200,000 for 1994-1995.

B. Conclusions

8. Should the Council adopt draft resolution X, as contained in the report of the Commission on the Status of Women, no additional resource requirements or programmatic changes are foreseen with regard to the year 1991 under the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

9. As to the requirements for the preparations for and holding of the conference during the period 1992-1995, as estimated in paragraph 7 above, should the Council adopt draft resolution X, those requirements would be dealt with in the context of the preparation of the outline of the proposed programme budgets for the bienniums 1992-1993 and 1994-1995 respectively.